

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE VIGILANTE GROUP OF NIGERIA (VGN) CHARGED WITH THE RESPONSIBILITIES AMONG OTHERS; PROVIDE COMMUNITY POLICING, MAINTENANCE OF LAW AND ORDER AND COMMUNITY SERVICE FOR NIGERIANS AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

Sponsored by Hon. Abbas Tajudeen

[] Commencement

ENACTED by the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as follows-

1 PART I - ESTABLISHMENT AND GOVERNING BOARD OF THE GROUP

2 1.-(1) There shall be established for the Federation a body to be
3 known as Vigilante Group of Nigeria.

Establishment of
the Vigilante
Group of Nigeria

4 (2) It shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a
5 common Seal, with power to hold and dispose of property (landed or
6 otherwise) and can sue and be sued in its corporate name.

7 (3) There is also established in each State and in each Local
8 Government of the Federation Vigilante Group of Nigeria.

9 2.-(1) There is hereby established a board to be known as the
10 Vigilante Group of Nigeria Board (In this Bill referred to as "the Board")
11 which shall be responsible or the administration of the Vigilante Group of
12 Nigeria Act.

Establishment of
Vigilante Group
of Nigeria
Governing Board

13 (2) Membership of the Board shall comprise of:

14 (a) the Minister who shall be the Chairman;

15 (b) one person to represent the Ministry charged with
16 responsibility for matters relating to interior;

17 (c) the Commandant General of the Vigilante Group of Nigeria

18 (d) the legal adviser to the Ministry charged with the responsibility
19 for matters relating to interior;

1 (e) two other persons, who shall be full-time members, to be
2 appointed by the President

3 (3) A member of the Board other than an ex-officio member shall hold
4 office for a period of four years and shall be eligible for re-appointment for one
5 further period of four years

6 (4) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (3) of the section, a
7 member of the Board other than an ex-officio member may:

8 (a) at any time resign his appointment by giving notice in writing of
9 his resignation addressed to the Minister;

10 (b) shall vacate his office if the Minister is satisfy that:

11 (i) the member has absented himself from two consecutive meetings
12 of the Board without permission of the chairman: or

13 (ii) the member by reason of mental or physical infirmity or any other
14 cause is incapable of discharging the duties of his office.

15 *Schedule*

16 (5) The supplementary provisions set out in the Schedule to this Bill,
17 shall, in addition to the provisions contained in the Immigration and Prisons
18 Services Board Act have effect with respect to the proceedings of the Board
19 under this Bill and the other matters contained therein.

Powers of
Board

20 3.-(1) The Board shall be responsible for:

21 (a) providing the general policies and guidelines relating to major
22 expansion programmes of the Group;

23 (b) the overall management and general administration of the Group;

24 (c) recruiting volunteers and regular members of the Group;

25 (d) organising basic development and refresher courses for members
26 of the Group; and

27 (e) fixing, with the approval of the Minister, the terms and conditions
28 of service of members and employees of the Group, including their
29 remuneration.

30 (2) The Board shall have power to do such other things which in the

1 opinion of the Board are necessary to ensure the efficient performance of the
2 functions of the Group.

3 PART II - FUNCTIONS OF THE GROUP, ETC.

4 4. In addition to such other functions as may be conferred upon it Functions
5 by this Act or any other law, the Vigilante Group shall:

6 (a) assist the Nigeria Police and other security agencies in
7 prevention and detection of crime, the apprehension of offenders, the
8 protection of lives and property and the preservation of law and order;

9 (b) protect and preserve public utilities;

10 (c) maintain law and order in all social gatherings;

11 (e) establish links with other Services in intelligence gathering and
12 dissemination;

13 (f) responding to distress alarms of residents of the community;

14 (g) carry out other lawful duties as may from time to time be
15 assigned to it by the Government.

16 5. The functions of the Vigilante Group in community shall Community
17 include mobilizing labour for and supervising community development service
18 activities in:

19 (1) Clearing of drainages and sewages.

20 (2) Putting in place measures to minimize or prevent flooding in
21 communities.

22 (3) Putting in place measures to prevent erosion.

23 (4) Putting in place measures to counter drought and
24 desertification.

25 (5) Prevention of bush-burning, fire incidences and arson.

26 (6) Putting in place measures to prevent drowning in rivers, wells
27 and beaches.

28 (7) Assist in clearing and maintaining remote (feeder) roads
29 linking various communities and markets.

30 (8) Clearing of oil spillage in oil producing communities.

1 (9) Instilling and engendering security culture in various
2 communities like street gate within wards, voluntary patrol and protection of
3 crops.

4 (10) Provision of security on market days which includes
5 surveillance, protection of commodities and vehicles.

6 (11) Securing places of worship within the communities.

7 (12) Check-mating pick-pocket, swindlers, illicit drug dealers and
8 substandard and expired products.

9 (13) Raising public awareness against abduction, kidnapping, cultism
10 and violence against women and children.

11 (14) Advocating for and instilling national values and ethics of
12 discipline, integrity, dignity of labour, social justice, religious tolerances, self
13 reliance and patriotism in the members of the communities.

14 (15) Encouraging environmental sanitation and prevention of water
15 pollution.

Roles in conflicts
and disasters

16 6. The Vigilante Group shall be involved in preventing and managing
17 conflicts and disasters as follows:

18 (1) Preventing conflicts and disasters through:

19 (a) Public enlightenment on the possible causes of conflicts,
20 especially on issues of witchcraft, ethnic crisis, land disputes, religious crisis,
21 ritual killings, cultism, farmer-herdsman crisis, religious extremism, youth
22 gangsterism, etc;

23 (b) Putting in place a system to prevent rumor-mongering,
24 misinformation, misguidance or anything likely to ignite violence or conflict in
25 whatever form throughout Nigerian communities;

26 (c) In collaboration with relevant agencies, establish Early Warning
27 Signs and Vulnerability Indices for conflicts and disasters in all Nigerian
28 Communities and disseminating same to all stakeholders;

29 (d) Designing and implementing robust societal reorientation and
30 attitudinal change programmes throughout the nation towards a culture of

1 preventing violent conflicts and disasters.

2 (2) During conflict times and in conflict areas, to assist the military
3 and other law enforcement agencies in the following ways:

4 (a) Identifying culprits and locating their hideouts and also
5 identifying strategies used by perpetrators of the conflicts and the victims or
6 vulnerable people to the conflict for proper actions;

7 (b) Assisting victims to escape through identified routes, providing
8 possible protection, first aid, psychological support and any available
9 material support. In so doing, the Vigilante Group shall collaborate with
10 relevant government agencies;

11 (c) Providing support to the military and other paramilitary
12 agencies in identifying terrains, providing scouts from Vigilante Group to
13 accompany the military or paramilitary to the hideouts of the perpetrators of
14 conflicts;

15 (d) Perform any task that is incidental or ancillary in aiding the
16 military and paramilitary as may be required by them on issues mentioned in
17 this subsection.

18 (3) The role of the Vigilante Group in post-conflict management
19 includes:

20 (a) Making preliminary assessment of safety and security of
21 affected areas as prelude to any damage assessment or relocation of
22 displaced persons;

23 (b) Preservation of properties and public utilities and guarding
24 same from further damage, destruction, theft or vandalism pending the
25 return of the members of the community to their homes;

26 (c) Helping in clearing debris, rebuilding homes and public
27 utilities, reviving economic activities such as markets, shops and transport
28 systems;

29 (d) Help in reintegrating returnees back to their normal lives,
30 providing psychosocial support to traumatized persons and providing

1 reassurance to the community on safety and security;

2 (e) Assist government and other agencies in facilitating peace and
3 reconciliation in affected areas for lasting peaceful coexistence;

4 (f) Mobilize youth and able-bodied members of post-conflict
5 communities towards rebuilding communities and creating jobs.

6 PART III - COMMAND STRUCTURE

7 7.-(1) The Service shall be under the command of the Commandant
8 General. While State and Local Government commands shall be under the
9 State and Local Government Commandant.

10 (2) Members of the Service shall bear such ranks as may be assigned
11 to them by the service in the following order:

12 (a) National Headquarter Command:

13 (i) Commandant General (National);

14 (ii) Deputy Commandant General (National);

15 (iii) Deputy Commandant (Administration);

16 (iv) Deputy Commandant (Finance);

17 (v) Deputy Commandant General (Operations);

18 (vi) Deputy Commandant General (Logistics);

19 (vii) Deputy Commandant General (Training);

20 (viii) Deputy Commandant General (Intelligence);

21 (ix) Deputy Commandant General (Provost);

22 (x) Assistant Commandant General (South-East);

23 (xi) Assistant Commandant General (South-South);

24 (xii) Assistant Commandant General (South-West);

25 (xiii) Assistant Commandant General (North-Central);

26 (xiv) Assistant Commandant General (North-East);

27 (xv) Assistant Commandant General (North-West);

28 (xvi) Assistant Commandant General (Planning, Research and
29 Statistics);

30 (xvii) Assistant Commandant General (Group Education);

- 1 (xviii) Assistant Commandant General (Legal Services);
- 2 (xix) Assistant Commandant General (Communications and ICT);
- 3 (xx) Assistant Commandant General (Special Task Force and Joint
- 4 Operation);
- 5 (xxi) Assistant Commandant General (Marine Safety);
- 6 (xxii) Group Commandant (Counter-terrorism);
- 7 (xxiii) Group Commandant (Small arms and light weapons
- 8 control);
- 9 (xxiv) Group Commandant (Inter-governmental affairs);
- 10 (xxv) Group Commandant (Disaster and Risk Management);
- 11 (xxvi) Group Commandant (Human Resources);
- 12 (xxvii) Deputy Group Commandant (Public Relations);
- 13 (xxviii) Deputy Group Commandant (Peace and Conflict
- 14 Management);
- 15 (xxix) Deputy Group Commandant (Border Security);
- 16 (xxx) Assistant Group Commandant (Marine Group);
- 17 (xxxii) Assistant Group Commandant (Bush and Forest
- 18 Surveillance);
- 19 (xxxii) Assistant Group Commandant (Medical Services).
- 20 (b) State Command:
- 21 (i) State Commandant;
- 22 (ii) Deputy State Commandant;
- 23 (iii) Assistant State Commandant (Administration);
- 24 (iv) Assistant State Commandant (Finance);
- 25 (v) Assistant State Commandant (Operations);
- 26 (vi) Chief Group Superintendent (Markets and Motor-Parks
- 27 Security);
- 28 (vii) Chief Group Superintendent (Places of Worship Security);
- 29 (viii) Chief Group Superintendent (Schools Security);
- 30 (ix) Chief Group Superintendent (Protection of Public Utilities);

- 1 (x) Group Superintendent (Drainages and Sewages);
- 2 (xi) Group Superintendent (Erosion Control);
- 3 (xii) Group Superintendent (Drought and Desertification Control);
- 4 (xiii) Group Superintendent (Bush-burning, Fire Incidences and
- 5 Arson);
- 6 (xiv) Group Superintendent (Oil Spillage);
- 7 (xv) Deputy Group Superintendent (Protocol);
- 8 (xvi) Deputy Group Superintendent (Anti-robbery);
- 9 (xvii) Deputy Group Superintendent (Patrol and Guards);
- 10 (xviii) Deputy Group Superintendent (Public Relations);
- 11 (xix) Deputy Group Superintendent (Surveillance);
- 12 (xx) Deputy Group Superintendent (Provost);
- 13 (xxi) Deputy Group Superintendent (Gender);
- 14 (xxii) Assistant Group Superintendent (Finance);
- 15 (xxiii) Assistant Group Superintendent (Stores).
- 16 (c) Local Government Command:
- 17 (i) Local Government Commandant;
- 18 (ii) Deputy Local Government Commandant;
- 19 (iii) Assistant Group Superintendent (Administration);
- 20 (iv) Assistant Group Superintendent (Operations);
- 21 (v) Assistant Group Superintendent (Finance);
- 22 (vi) Chief Group Inspector (Surveillance);
- 23 (vii) Chief Group Inspector (Patrol and Guard);
- 24 (viii) Chief Group Inspector (Special Duties);
- 25 (ix) Senior Group Inspector (Pollution and Environmental
- 26 Sanitation);
- 27 (x) Senior Group Inspector (Narcotics Control);
- 28 (xi) Senior Group Inspector (Women);
- 29 (xii) Group Inspector (Road Traffic);
- 30 (xiii) Group Inspector (Crimes);

1 (xiv) Group Sergeant (Provost);

2 (xv) Group Sergeant (Exhibit).

3 8.-(1) The Group shall consist of such number of volunteers and Membership of
4 regular members as may, from time to time, be recruited by the Board to
5 meet the requirements of the Group. the Group

6 (2) Members of the Group shall be made up of such officers and
7 other ranks as the Board may, from time to time, determine.

8 9.-(1) The service may consider and promote from time to time
9 officers and members who are qualified to be elevated to the next rank.

10 (2) The Group-

11 (a) shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a
12 common seal;

13 (b) may sue and be sued in its corporate name; and

14 (c) shall have its headquarters in the Federal Capital Territory,
15 Abuja.

16 PART IV - UNIFORMS, EQUIPMENTS AND RANKS

17 10.-(1) There shall be uniforms for the Vigilante Group, which Uniforms
18 shall be subject to change, as follows:

19 (a) Dark-maroon jacket, shirt, trousers and skirts;

20 (b) Dark-red beret;

21 (c) Black belt for general duties;

22 (d) White belt for provost officers;

23 (e) Black boots;

24 (f) White lanyard for officers and dark-maroon lanyard for
25 members.

26 (2) The Commandant General is hereby empowered to make
27 Regulations for uniforms and their use.

28 11.-(1) The Government shall provide for the Vigilante Group Equipment
29 equipment as are necessary for its administrative and operational needs.
30 Such equipment shall include the following:

- 1 (a) Operational and utility vehicles;
- 2 (b) Communication gadgets including walkie-talkies, masts,
- 3 boosters, radio-messaging equipment, 'caller unit group' (CUG);
- 4 (c) Other operational and administrative equipment like rain coats,
- 5 rain boots, access control system equipment, torch-lights, reflective jackets,
- 6 blankets, whistles and other equipment deemed necessary;
- 7 (d) Detective equipment like hand-held metal detectors, walk-
- 8 through detectors, baggage scanners, close circuit television (CCTV) cameras,
- 9 bomb detectors and vehicular bomb detectors and other Explosive Ordnance
- 10 Disposer(EOD);

11 (2) The Commandant General shall make Regulations on the use of
12 equipment including safety measures in handling sensitive equipment.

Ranks and Insignia

13 **12.-(1)** The Commandant General - Coat of Arms, two Stars at the
14 Centre and Vigilante Group of Nigeria logo.

15 (2) Deputy Commandant General - Coat of Arms, a Star at the Centre
16 and Vigilante Group of Nigeria logo.

17 (3) Assistant Commandant General - Coat of Arms, one Bar at the
18 Centre and Vigilante Group of Nigeria logo.

19 (4) Group Commandant - Coat of Arms and Vigilante Group of
20 Nigeria logo.

21 (5) Deputy Group Commandant - a Star and Vigilante Group of
22 Nigeria logo.

23 (6) Assistant Group Commandant - Vigilante Group of Nigeria logo.

24 (7) Chief Group Superintendent - Coat of Arms and one Star.

25 (8) Group Superintendent - Coat of Arms.

26 (9) Deputy Group Superintendent - three Stars.

27 (10) Assistant Group Superintendent I - two Stars.

28 (11) Assistant Group Superintendent II - one Star.

29 (13) Chief Inspector - four Bars.

30 (14) Senior Inspector - three Bars.

1 (15) Inspector - two Bars.

2 (16) Group Sergeant.

3 (17) Corporal.

4 (18) Lance Corporal.

5 (19) Operative.

6 PART V - FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

7 13.-(1) The Federal Government shall be responsible for the Funds of the
8 establishment, payment of staff and maintenance of the National Group
9 Secretariat.

10 (2) The Group may receive donations from other organizations
11 after due consultation with the necessary agencies.

12 (3) The officers and members shall be paid full salaries on such
13 terms and conditions as may be prescribed as it is in the Federal Civil
14 Service Commission or any related agency.

15 (4) The Group shall be paid from security vote and overhead costs,
16 such allowances as are reasonably necessary for the upkeep of its National
17 Secretariat and for meeting of its incidental expenses like, but not limited to
18 the day to day running of the Group.

19 14.-(1) The service in the Group shall be approved service for the Pensions
20 purposes of the Pensions Act and, accordingly, regular members and
21 employees of the Group shall be entitled to pensions, gratuity and other
22 retirement benefits as are prescribed under the Pensions Act.

23 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1) of this
24 section, nothing in this Bill shall prevent the appointment of a person to any
25 office on terms which preclude the grant of a pension, gratuity or other
26 retirement benefit in respect of that office.

27 (3) For the purposes of the application of the provisions of the
28 Pensions Act, any power exercisable by the Minister or other authority of the
29 Federal Government, other than the power to make regulations under
30 section 23 of the Act, is hereby vested in and shall be exercisable by the

1 Group and not by any other person or authority.

Expenditure of
the Group

2 15. The Commission may, from time to time, apply the proceeds of
3 the Fund established in section 11 of this Bill-

4 (a) to the cost of administration of the Group;

5 (b) to the payment of salaries, fees, or other remuneration or
6 allowances, gratuities payable to the officers and other employees of the
7 Group, so that no payment of any kind under this paragraph (except such as
8 may be expressly authorised) shall be made to any person who is in receipt of
9 emoluments from the Federal or State Government;

10 (c) for the maintenance of any property vested in the Group; and

11 (d) for and in connection with all or any of its functions under this Bill.

Annual estimates
and accounts

12 16.-(1) The Group shall, not later than 31st October in each year,
13 submit to the Minister an estimate of its expenditure and income (including
14 payments to the Group Fund) during the next succeeding year.

15 (2) The Group shall keep proper accounts in relation to those accounts
16 and shall cause its accounts to be audited within six months after the end of
17 each year by auditors appointed from the list and in accordance with the
18 guidelines supplied by the Auditor-General of the Federation.

Annual report

19 17. The Group shall prepare and submit to the Federal Executive
20 Council through the Minister, not later than six months after the end of each
21 year, a report in such form as he may direct on the activities of the Group during
22 the immediately preceding year, and shall include in such report a copy of the
23 audited accounts of the Group for that year and the auditor's report on the
24 accounts.

Power to accept
gift

25 18.-(1) The Group may accept any gift of land, money or other
26 property on such terms and conditions, if any, as may be specified by the person
27 or organisation making the gift.

28 (2) The Group shall not accept any gift if the conditions attached by
29 the person or organisation offering the gift are inconsistent with the functions
30 of the Group.

1 **19.**-(1) The Group may, from time to time, borrow by overdraft or Power to borrow
 2 otherwise such sums as it may require for the performance of its functions
 3 under this Bill.

4 (2) The Group shall not, without the approval of the Minister,
 5 borrow money which exceeds, at any time, the amount set by the Minister.

6 (3) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, where the sum
 7 to be borrowed is in foreign currency, the Group shall not borrow the sum
 8 without the prior approval of the Minister.

9 **20.** The Group may, subject to the provisions of this Bill and the Investment
 10 conditions of any trust created in respect of any property, invest all or any of Act Cap. T22,
 11 its funds in any security prescribed by the Trustee Investments Act or in such LFN, 2004
 12 other securities as may, from time to time, be approved by the Minister.

13 **21.**-(1) The Group shall be exempted from the payment of any Exemptions
 14 income tax on any income accruing from investments made by the Board for from tax
 15 the Group.

16 (2) The provisions of any enactment relating to the taxation of
 17 companies or trust funds shall not apply to the Group or the Board.

18 PART VI - DISCIPLINE

19 **22.** A Group member who- Discipline of
 20 (a) performs his duties in contravention of the objects of the Group; Groups members
 21 (b) takes part in any subversive activity, including mutiny and
 22 disturbance of public peace;
 23 (c) abets, incites, conceals or condones the commission of any
 24 offence;
 25 (d) takes part in an illegal assembly of persons with intention to
 26 breach public peace, destroy property or assault any person or group of
 27 persons;
 28 (e) having knowledge that an offence or an illegal act is about to be
 29 committed, fails to inform his superior officer;
 30 (f) takes part in a strike; and

1 (g) offers violent assault on his superior officer;
 2 commits an offence and is liable on conviction to imprisonment for a term of
 3 not less than one year.

4 PART VII - LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

5 23.-(1) Subject to the provisions of this Bill, the provisions of the
 6 Public officers Protection Act shall apply in relation to any suit instituted
 7 against any officer or employee of the Group.

8 (2) Notwithstanding anything contained in any other enactment, no
 9 suit against any member of the Board or the Commandant-General or any other
 10 officer or employee of the Group for any act done in pursuance or execution of
 11 this Bill or any other enactment or law, or of any public duty or authority or in
 12 respect of any alleged neglect or default in the execution of this Bill or any
 13 other enactment or law, duty or authority, shall lie or be instituted in any court
 14 unless it is commenced:

15 (a) within three months after the act, neglect or default complained of;

16 (b) in the case of a continuation of damage or injury, within six
 17 months after the ceasing thereof.

18 (3) No suit shall be commenced against a member of the Board or the
 19 Commandant-General or any other officer or employee of the Group before the
 20 expiration of a period of one month after written notice of intention to
 21 commence the suit shall have been served on the Group by the intending
 22 plaintiff or his agent.

23 (4) The notice referred to in subsection (3) of this section shall clearly
 24 and explicitly state:

25 (a) the cause of action;

26 (b) the particulars of claim;

27 (c) the name and place of abode of the intending plaintiff; and

28 (d) the relief which the plaintiff claims.

29 24. A notice, summons or other document required or authorized to
 30 be served on the Group under the provisions of this Bill or any other enactment

Limitation of
suits against
Group

Service of
documents

1 or law may be served by delivering it to the Commandant-General or by
 2 sending it by registered post and addressed to the Commandant-General at
 3 the principal office of the Group.

4 25.-(1) In any action or suit against the Group, no execution or
 5 attachment of process in the nature thereof shall be issued against the Group
 6 unless a notice of not less than 3 months of the intention to execute or attach
 7 has been given to the Group.

Restriction on
 execution against
 property of the
 Group

8 (2) Any sum of money, which may, by the judgment of any Court,
 9 be awarded against the Group shall, subject to any directions given by the
 10 court where notice of appeal against the judgment has been given, be paid
 11 from the general reserve fund of the Group.

12 26. A member of the Board or the Commandant-General or any
 13 officer or employee of the Group shall be indemnified out of the assets of the
 14 Group against any liability incurred by him in defending any proceeding,
 15 whether civil or criminal, if the proceeding is brought against him in his
 16 capacity as a member, Commandant-General, officer or other employee of
 17 the Group.

Indemnity of
 officers

18 27.-(1) A member of the Board or the Commandant-General or any
 19 other officer or employee of the Group shall-

Secrecy

20 (a) not, for his personal gain, make use of any information which
 21 has come to his knowledge in the exercise of his powers or is obtained by
 22 him in the ordinary course of his duty as a member of the Board as the
 23 Commandant-General, officer or employee of the Group;

24 (b) treat as confidential any information which has come to his
 25 knowledge in the exercise of his powers or is obtained by him in the
 26 performance of his duties under this Bill; or

27 (c) not disclose any information referred to under paragraph (b) of
 28 this subsection except when required to do so, by any court or in such other
 29 circumstances as may be prescribed by the Board, from time to time;

30 (2) A person who contravenes the provisions of subsection (1) of

1 this section commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of not less
2 than N20,000 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years.

Power to obtain
information

3 **28.**-(1) For the purpose of carrying out the functions conferred on the
4 Group under this Bill, the Commandant-General or any other officer or
5 employee of the Group authorised in that behalf-

6 (a) shall have a right of access to all the records of any person or
7 authority affected by this Bill for the specific purpose of discharging his duties
8 under this Bill; and

9 (b) may by notice in writing served on any person or premises, require
10 that person or authority to furnish information on such matters as may be
11 specified in notice.

12 (2) The person or authority served with the notice under subsection
13 (1) shall furnish information its required under subsection (1) of this section
14 and comply with the notice a reasonable time.

Directives by
the Minister, etc.

15 **29.**-(1) The Minister may give to the Group or the Commandant-
16 General such directives:

17 (a) of a general nature or relating generally to matters of policy with
18 regard to the exercise of its functions; or

19 (b) with respect to the maintenance and securing of public safety and
20 order, as he may consider necessary, and the Group or the Commandant-
21 General shall comply with the directives or cause them to be complied with.

22 (2) Subject to the provisions Subsection (1) of this section, a
23 Governor of a State may give to a State Command, such directives with respect
24 to the maintenance and security of public safety and order in the State as he may
25 consider necessary and it shall be the duty of the State Commandant shall
26 comply with the directives or cause them to be complied with.

Regulations

27 **30.** The Group may, with die approval of the Minister, make such
28 regulations as in its opinion are necessary or expedient for giving full effects to
29 the provisions of this Bill and for the due administration of its provisions.

- 1 31. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires: Interpretation
- 2 "Vigilante Group of Nigeria" means the Group established under this Act;
- 3 "Community Service" shall include those listed in section 5 of this Act;
- 4 "Commandant General" means the Commandant of the Vigilante Group in
- 5 Nigeria;
- 6 "Deputy Commandant General" means the Deputy to the Commandant
- 7 General;
- 8 "Assistant Commandant General" means the Assistant to the Commandant
- 9 General;
- 10 "Zonal Commandant" is the officer responsible for any of the six
- 11 geopolitical zones of Nigeria;
- 12 "State Commandant" means the Commandant of the Vigilante Group at the
- 13 State level;
- 14 "Officer" means an officer from the ranks of the Commandant General to
- 15 Assistant Superintendent of the Vigilante Group;
- 16 "Minister" means Minister responsible for interior;
- 17 "Member" means a non-commissioned member below the rank of Assistant
- 18 Superintendent of the Vigilante Group;
- 19 "Rank and File" has the same meaning as members;
- 20 "State" means any State of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- 21 "Zonal Office" means the Vigilante office in each of the geopolitical zones
- 22 of Nigeria.
- 23 32. This Bill may be cited as the Vigilante Group of Nigeria Citation
- 24 (Establishment) Bill, 2016.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to establish the Vigilante Group of Nigeria Charged with the Responsibilities among others; provide Community policing, Maintenance of Law and Order in Communities and Community Service for Nigerians

1 SCHEDULE

2 ADDITIONAL SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS RELATING TO
3 THE BOARD, ETC.4 *Section 2 (2)*5 *Proceedings*

6 1.-(1) The Board shall, for the purpose of this Bill, meet not less than
7 three times in each year.

8 (2) The board shall meet whenever it is summoned by the Chairman
9 and if the Chairman is required to do so by a notice given to him by not less than
10 five other members, he shall summon a meeting of the Board to be held within
11 fourteen days from the date on which the notice is given.

12 (3) Where the Board desires to obtain the advice of any person on a
13 particular matter, the Board may co-opt him to the board for such period as it
14 thinks fit but a person who is a member by virtue of this sub-paragraph shall not
15 be entitled to vote at any meeting of the Board and shall not count towards a
16 quorum.

17 *Committees*

18 2.-(1) The Board may appoint one or more committees to carry out, on
19 behalf of the Board, its functions under this Bill as the Board may determine.

20 (2) A committee appointed under this paragraph shall consist of such
21 number of persons (not necessarily members of the Board as may be
22 determined by the Board) and a person other than a member of the Board shall
23 hold office in the committee in accordance with the terms of his appointment.

24 (3) A decision of a Committee of the Board shall be of no effect until it
25 is confirmed by the Board.

26 *Miscellaneous*

27 3.-(1) The fixing of the seal of the Group shall be authenticated by the
28 signature of the Chairman or any other person authorised generally or
29 specifically to act for that purpose by the Board and the Commandant-General.

30 (2) Any contract or instrument, which if made or executed by a person

1 not being a body corporate, would not be required to be under seal, may be
2 made or executed on behalf of the Board by the Commandant-General or
3 any person generally or specially authorised to act for the purpose by the
4 Board.

5 (3) Any document purporting to be a document duly executed
6 under the seal of the Board shall received in evidence and shall, unless and
7 until the contrary is proved, be presumed to be so executed.

